

THE OBSERVER



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Shack City Springs up on the IM Field

It was hard not to notice the rows of cardboard boxes lined up in the IM field on the night of October 9, 2002. The establishment was "Shack City," an event sponsored by Habitat for Humanity through which students were able to get a glimpse of what it would be like to be homeless by spending the night outside in a box.

The evening began with students setting up and decorating (if so desired) their cardboard boxes, which would serve as both home and bed for the night. After everyone's homes were established, there were games of kickball and Ultimate Frisbee (played with a glow-in-the-dark ball and Frisbee, respectively), and Twister for entertainment, and snacks of hot chocolate and cookies for sustenance. Many people chose to just talk and

enjoy each other's company, while a few dedicated students worked on their homework that was due the following day. Whenever anyone got tired, they retired to their cardboard shelter for the night.

According to sophomore Meg Perryman, Habitat for Humanity officer and coordinator of Shack City, the purpose of this event was to "raise awareness" of homelessness and what it means to be homeless. When asked if Shack City was an effective method of raising awareness, she answered, "Yes and no. It definitely succeeds at making people think and forces them to take a step back and reflect on what one has. However, we had access to blankets, and lots of them. It was still cold, but many

homeless people do not have access to blankets in that quantity. Also, there was food offered, and some students went to the Hub to get food. Homeless people would probably not be able to do this either. It is not realistic, but then again, it is not meant to be totally realistic. It is meant to help in making people want to go make a difference." Freshman participant Kara Marxer agreed, saying "Shack City is a great idea, it just was not realistic."

Perryman said that since Shack City, several people who are not members of Habitat for Humanity have shown interest in the organization and asked how they could get involved. Habitat for Humanity will be offering Shack City next year, and hopes to in-

crease the number of times the event is offered, with possibly a few offered in warmer weather. According to Perryman, "More events means more participation, and the more people we have the more job sites we can go to."

Habitat for Humanity is always open to new members and holds their meetings every other Wednesday in the North Halleck Lounge. As for reasons to get involved, Perryman offers these: "It is something you do not get to do often, and it is something new to try and gain that experience." Even if you missed out on Shack City this time around, Habitat for Humanity would be glad to have you as a member if you are interested, and be sure to keep an eye out for the next offering of Shack City.

Katie Grgic
Staff Writer



Trying to warm up, this group of Habitaters take a time-out from the festivities to crawl inside their community of boxes.



Homey touches, such as candles, made the night a little more bearable, as some students passed the time with card games.

Shack City

2002



Getting creative with their "shack," sophomores Kenny Shumard and Abbey Connor have a great time while raising awareness about homelessness.



Sophomore Casey Wagner relaxes in front of her home for the night after exhaustingly assembling it.



Friends Tony Braner, sophomore; Marissa Klebs, freshman; and Gretchen Govert, sophomore, brave the cold and get close for warmth.

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The Inaccessible Student Library

What does a girl have to do to be able to study around here! All I want is a nice, quiet place where I can sit down and read, free of distractions. I try my dorm room: the girls in the hall are too loud. I try the lounge: the girls in there are too loud. I try the Core building: locked. I try the library: bingo. I smile as I plop down in front of a computer to do some research. As the printer revs itself up, I get glares from the librarian on duty. I ignore them and go about my business. After about ten minutes, I hear her say a little too loudly, "Well, we're about to close in about ten minutes." I glance at the clock: 10:30. I was under the impression the library stayed open until eleven? Last time I checked, eleven was still a half hour away... not ten minutes. Being the nice person that I am, I pack up and start to leave. In passing, just out of curiosity, I ask the librarian what time the library closes. "Technically... eleven o'clock," she says

Becky Scherer
News/Opinion Editor

hesitatingly, "but I usually start kicking people out at about quarter till." WHAT?! I thanked her, walked away, and steamed in the hallway. 10:45? Some students don't get back into their rooms until after 9:00 at night... how are we expected to get all this work done in such a short amount of time? Especially during midterms week?

One problem that Saint Joe's has is that the same small group of students is involved in every activity. I understand that it's hard for activities and clubs to get new members, but this sad fact makes everyone involved look bad. The majority of this small group of students also is at the top of their classes grade-wise. We go to classes all day,

have meetings or other activities to attend to until well past dinner-time, then need a quiet place to get our loads of studying and homework accomplished. How are we expected to juggle all these responsibilities without the cooperation of anyone?

I know, I know. The first priority at school is class work, not extracurriculars. But all I've been hearing since I've been here is what a "good resume builder" this activity will be, what a "great work experience" that activity will be. While we're out building our resumes, they're slamming the library doors on our backs! I understand it's a boring job. But the library employees are getting paid. If I kicked everyone out of my workplace ten minutes early, I would be fired.

I'm not trying to condemn anyone here. I'm just an upset student with a ton of homework to finish and no where to go.

Another Totally Tubular List!

By: Your Eighties Babies

A trip down memory lane to our grade school days is not complete without an ode to all the "cool" words we used to say. Some of the best adjectives ever written came out of the

eighties. Have you ever wanted to revive these sayings but were too embarrassed? Fear no more: a team of Observer Editors have collaborated and made a list of the hippist terminology.

Read on for the crème de la crème of nostalgic lingo, according to Melissa Genova, Bridget Newman, and Becky Scherer.

Phrase or word:

Kick a**:
Gag me with a spoon:
Rufus:
Tiiii-yiiiieet:
Word:
Radical:
Dy-no-mite:
Foo:
Gross me out:
Dudical:
Fresh:
Dope:
As if:
Chill pill:
Fly:
Grodie:
Homeboy:
Psyche:
Dweeb:
Drama:

Used in a totally 80s sentence:

"Donny Wahlberg is totally kick a** in those overalls!"
"She didn't *tight* roll?! Gag me with a *spoon*!"
"Legwarmers are *totally* rufus!"
"Those spandex are tiiii-yiiiieet."
"Word."
"Ninja Turtles?! *Radical*!"
Jimmie Walker: "Dy-no-mite!"
"I pity da foo!"
"Anthony Michael Hall? In tight jeans? *Gross* me out!"
"The Poison concert was *soooooo* dudical."
"The New Kids on the Block are so, like, *fresh*!"
"Dope! It's time for Fresh Prince!"
"As if Billy Idol *isn't* a hottie!"
"Man—take a *chill* pill."
"Dylan is *sooo* fly."
"Garbage Pail Kids are so grodie!"
"I like to hang with my homeboys at the mall."
"Psyche! *Gotcha*!"
"That girl doesn't have a Skip-It. What a dweeb!"
"Save the drama fer yore mama."

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Rants and Raves by John Whelan

Let me take a poll: How many of you reading this column want to live in a loud, obnoxious building with no air conditioning in the summer, bugs crawling and flying in from any hole they can find in the fall, mice in the winter, and bathrooms that make you gag when you breathe in them? I'm not seeing any hands raised. That is an accurate description of what life is like in Bennett Hall. Over the summer, the students who had the opportunity to take classes had to stay in Bennett. Girls on 2nd floor, boys on first floor; Bennett has no air conditioning. How those students survived living in this oven of a dorm, I will never know. Another thing I will never know or understand is why they were not put up in one of the air-conditioned dorms like Halas or Gallagher. Certainly they were paying enough money to stay there. Surely, they are important enough to

give them a decent place to stay where they won't risk heat stroke.

Another problem with the dorms is the bathrooms. The bathrooms smell horrible. I'm sure some of you are reading this and thinking "well, it IS a bathroom after all...", and I agree that bathrooms aren't the greatest smelling places in the world, but this is worse than normal. It's a problem that could be solved with urinal cakes or some kind of air freshener. Earlier in the year we had an infestation of some kind of small biting insects as a result of the corn fields being cut down. The school had people spray for it, and the bugs eventually disappeared. Now, I don't want to be presumptuous, but it occurs to me that corn fields are nothing new here. I'm pretty sure that the bugs that came after the corn was cut down was nothing new either. Perhaps the spraying should have

been done earlier to prevent the infestation in the first place? It is just a thought.

A few weeks ago, an event happened that made me realize that the problems with the dorms aren't all a result of the administration having a lackluster approach to the situation. Late one night quite a few weeks ago, all power went out in Bennett. I had been working on a program for my java class, and lost all my work. Many students were up until at least 1:30 AM waiting for power to be restored. The loss of power was not due to anything the college did, it wasn't faulty wiring, or even a blown fuse. The power went out because somebody flipped the main power cutoff switch, and shut off power to our dorm. That switch is in the basement, and requires having a key (or some other way in) to get in and turn it off. The general consensus is that it was a student trying to

play a prank. Nice prank. Because of it I spent the entire next afternoon re-writing my program, and many people lost sleep.

We affect our own quality of life in the dorms. There are things the administration needs to get sorted out and changed—the smell in the bathroom is one of them. Perhaps adding air conditioners so we won't fry come spring would be a nice change. Taking a pro-active approach to rodent and pest control would be helpful and appreciative, too. Considering having summer students stay in an air conditioned dorm would be valued by all those students I'm sure, as well. But we as students need to take a more positive approach to our living space as well. Throw trash in garbage cans, don't write profanity on washers, and whatever you do, don't switch off power to the dorm.

Making an Impact: Karate Club

It is Tuesday night on the St. Joe's campus. A group of a dozen or so students hang out in the rec-center talking about classes, boyfriends, and the food at the cafe. "Line up!" Sensei calls out. Suddenly, the Saint Joseph kids become stoic students of an ancient art: the art of Kobayashi Shorin-ryu Karate.



First, the basics: warm-ups and stretching. Then, the real fun begins. Like a perfectly synchronized chorus line of warriors, two lines of students traverse across the gym floor repeating punches and kicks. Sensei Caleb

Kopczyk walks among them shouting "ichi! ni! sun! shi!" counting in Japanese and correcting his students' form as they throw punches at their imaginary attackers. The class progresses to more difficult moves and combinations. "Step, block, punch!" I am halfway expecting to hear "right hand green! Left foot red!" as their routine becomes more and more difficult. "Woah," a student exclaims as Kopczyk demonstrates a chain of complicated punches. I echo his awe. Kopczyk points to his own leg: "No, bent knee like this." The students mirror him almost perfectly. Their countenance remains steady and focused. "Kiya!" They exclaim each time they throw a punch. Kopczyk explains this cry channels power through the punch making it stronger and more effective. Everyone is barefoot, and I can hear them breathe. "Ichi!" Kiya! Feet smack on the floor. Exhale. "Ni!" Kiya! Feet smack on the floor. Exhale.

Emily Durwood
Staff Writer

The students laugh at their mistakes as they just barely miss their partner's face: "I don't wanna punch ya, dude!" but soon their concentration returns. The students move as if in a dance: a moonwalking rumba with a war cry. One partner steps forward, the other steps back. Karate is truly a beautiful art.

It began thousands of years ago when Japan overtook the island of Okinawa. The Japanese outlawed all weapons and tools of combat. Karate was thus developed in the secret of night as the sole line of defense. Karate has developed beyond the scope of battle, and is now, according to Kopczyk, "a way of life. Karate is a tool for making you a better person. It attempts to give you the ability to do what is right: to have the confidence not to second guess yourself." Kopczyk knows well the impact of Karate as he has studied it for ten years, earning his second-degree black belt.

Other students in the class admit that this is their first experience with this ancient art. First time student Christine Malnarsick explains, "I came because I thought it was interesting. It is more fun than going to the fitness center and sitting on a machine for a half hour or an hour." Roman Rodriguez says simply, "I still want to be a Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtle. It spices things up as opposed to training mile after mile." Classes are held every Tuesday and Thursday at 8:00 in the Rec-center and will continue throughout the year. Anyone is welcome to attend, be they a black belt or a green horn.

By the end of the class most of the students are out of breath. They have worked out much more than just their body. "It's a great experience, emotionally and physically," according to Jordan Scott. "I have learned to go way past the point of no return."

Kopczyk bows to his class, and they bow to him. "Thanks so much for coming, and I'll see you Thursday at eight!"

WPUM's SJC Unplugged

Bored on a weeknight? Looking for something to do at either 6:30 or 10:30? Fret no more: tune your televisions into WPUM Channel 6 for "SJC Unplugged." Modeled after the popular MTV show called "MTV Unplugged," creator Bridget Newman has started a trend. It all began as a Basic Video Production project for Professor Berger last year, second semester. Newman volunteered to be a producer on one of two final projects for the class, including SJC Unplugged. Musically talented students had a chance to showcase their abilities and be broadcasted across the campus. The original guests, a band called The Mel McGuiggan Experience, consisted of now-alumni Timothy Newman, Melvin McGuiggan, and Jon Greene. These trendsetters unknowingly set a standard for the rest of SJC to follow, paving the way to bigger and bet-



Becky Scherer
News/Opinion
Editor

ter things. Keeping some concepts and adding some more, Newman and her team revamped the show and made it a weekly series.

These stars waiting to be discovered now have a chance to play 4-5 songs, original or cover. In between performances, host Becky Scherer, a la MTV Unplugged, will interview them. Commercial breaks give the musicians and crew alike a chance to regroup and remember any forgotten words or commands.

Newman has high hopes for her television baby. "There is so much talent within everyone on this campus. It's just a matter of giving these individuals an outlet with which to express it," she says of her peers.

Don't think that just because you've missed these auditions that your chance is up. The show will be returning next semester, with Newman hopes, all new student guests and talents; faculty members are strongly encouraged to join the show.



Last week's guest, junior
Melissa Genova.

The Lineup:

Past guests include:

Brienne Hopkins: Voice and guitar
Melissa Genova: Voice and guitar

This week's guest:

Andy Cool: Voice and guitar

Upcoming guests:

Alison Glidewell: Voice and guitar
Kurt Laurinaitis: A capella voice
Samantha Ma'Ayteh: Piano
Cristin Cook: A capella voice
Joe Miliam and Mike Alkaraki: Voice and guitar
Jeremy Clifton: Piano
Kristine Dougherty, Bridget Newman, and Becky Scherer: Voice
(piano accompaniment provided by Bridget Newman)

For more information, please contact Bridget Newman at bnh3998@saintjoe.edu

Can't wait for class evaluations to roll around? Voice your opinion *now* on the World Wide Web. Log on to <http://www.ratemyprofessors.com>. You may be surprised to find that Saint Joseph's College already has many postings: some true, but all hilarious.

If you would like to make a contribution to either the Opinion page or the News page, please email Becky Scherer at

Remember, *The Observer* does not print any unsigned opinions or editorials.

Professor John Groppe: All Around Artistic

Natalie Lapacek
Staff Writer

Photography, in addition to poetry and writing, is yet another artistic area that English professor Dr. John Groppe has decided to take on, and with much of it on display at the Carnegie Center Gallery, students are encouraged to visit and view his work. His photos have brilliant artistic elements and are simply quite beautiful. Any art fanatic would easily fall in love with his work.

John Groppe has been interested in photography for quite some time. He took some photography in high school, but did not seriously pursue it until the 1980's. Mr. Groppe became motivated to take pictures when he went bicycling in the country; he was captivated by the things he saw on the sides of the roads like flowers and plants and how the light shone on them at different parts of the day. Mr. Groppe's favorite things to shoot are those that have interesting lighting, whether that is the bright light of the afternoon shining on the college

chapel while birds fly around the crosses at the top of the towers, or the golden morning glow on an ear of corn and its stalk at harvest time, or the warm sunlight that reflects off the beads of dew on the stem of some Queen Anne's lace.

All the pictures in Groppe's section of the gallery were taken in the spring and summer time, so they all have a very fresh, uplifting feeling about them. All his photos are in color and are developed by Kodak. He is interested in black and white photography, but does not have easy access to a dark room for developing; upon retiring, he hopes to be able to have more access and work more with black and white film. His camera of choice is

a Canon; learning how to use one of these in high school was Mr. Groppe's spark for his interest in photography.

The Jasper County League, the Prairie Arts Council at the Carnegie Center, and the County Fair have presented Dr. Groppe the opportunity to display his work.

For Saint Joe, he has done some photos for some catalogs and also for a Christmas card, which was a picture of the St. Joseph and young Jesus statue set in a snowy background.

For those who may be unfamiliar with the Prairie Arts Council, it is basically, as told to me by Mr. Groppe, "a local organization that helps develop artists and an interest in the arts in Jasper county."

They are set up at the Carnegie Center and offer a variety of artistic

programs to all ages which include: visual arts exhibitions from different places and fields, dance and theatre performances, musical concerts and demonstrations, film series, book talks, arts workshops and lectures by regional and visiting artists, and fine art and craft sales.

Membership is also offered to students for \$10 and "individuals" for \$25. Being a member gives you discounts on sales of fine arts and crafts and workshop fees, invitations to special exhibition receptions, access to museum tours and special trips, and much more. If this is appealing to you, take a trip down to the Carnegie Center (bring lots of friends!) to check out the gallery to not only see Mr. Groppe's excellent work, but also some photography and architecturally themed artwork by Abbie Parmele and Kelley Spurgeon. The gallery will be shown until November 8th and is open Monday through Friday from noon to four o'clock.

The address of the Carnegie Center is 301 N. Van Rensselaer Street. It is just a short drive from the college, and the gallery is well worth the time!



John Groppe's photo "Crabapple"

300 word Concert Review... Dashboard Confessional : Oct. 19, 2002 Congress Theatre, Chicago

A Dashboard Confessional fan knows that a sore throat needs to be earned, and the hoarse voice I will probably have for the next week due to singing along to every song is definitely worth it! Although I got to the concert late, missing Rhett Miller and Loudermilk, I was able to catch the entire set of Hot Rod Circuit. It was a fantastic prerequisite to the Dashboard set.

While I think I was one of the few people who actually knew the words to "As Lovers Go," "So Beautiful," and "Tonight I'll Take What I Can Get," the new songs still seemed to strike a chord with the audience. The "So Impossible" encore was amazing – while the cliché joke is that Chris and his fans all cry during the show, it really did bring tears to my eyes. He played the entire EP, with an extended version of "Hands Down." The live rendition of "Remember to Breathe" was incredible. He played crowd favorites (but no "Turpentine Chaser" – darn!) including "Saints and Sailors," "Sharp Hint of New Tears" and "Ender will save us all," dedicating it to Hot Rod Circuit and Tenacious D.

It is refreshing to hear an artist continuously express his appreciation for his fans during the concert, even though he has recently won an MTV award and filled up theatres as large as the Congress in Chicago.

Even though I was late, I managed to sneak my way up to about the tenth row – props to the guy in the green shirt who helped me get there. He rocked my world Saturday! I was able to see the band without stepping on my tiptoes the entire time.

It was my third Dashboard show, and despite his newfound popularity, Chris has kept a tight intimacy with his fans.

reviewed by Melissa Genova, editor-in-chief

Chris Carrabba
(Dashboard Confessional)
and me at
the Weezer/Dashboard
show at the
Tweeter Center
over the summer.
The band Loudermilk, who
have been touring with
Dashboard
Confessional on
this recent tour, was
onstage in
the background.



Music Quickie: Rolling Stones "Forty Licks"

Alex Lisack
Staff Writer

This band has proved it once again.....they are the personification of rock'n roll. Without Mick Jagger and the boys, the world of music would definitely not be the same.

This record is a compilation of all of their work dating from 1962-2002. The double-disk feature provides 40 great songs for us to listen to. You can pick up this superb collection of rock for a mere twenty dollars.

The band always keeping their fans shocked, Keith Richards is still alive so they are able to put on one of the greatest shows available to the public. If anyone is still interested in real music and classic hits they should definitely pick this album up.



For a Cup O Java, Go To Cup O Joe

Melissa Genova
Editor-in-Chief

Want to go to a place where everyone knows your name? Well, Cheers is not around anymore. However, SJC has their own little community that includes artists, poets, avid coffee drinkers and *Trivial Pursuit* loving students. Cup O Joe is a student run coffeeshop-like establishment located in the Chapel basement.

What makes Cup O Joe unique to the campus community is that it is open to anyone willing to use its resources. It plays host to Measure readings, singers, Faith Group, and study sessions, as well as simply being a quiet hangout and study area. "COJ is a great place for events. I like the Measure readings and Trivial Pursuit tournaments, but I think most of all, I like when people bring down their guitars and musical instruments, songs, poetry, stories, and even Core papers to share with everyone," said Maura Giles, the current advisor of COJ.

Students of every genre are invited to have a free cup of coffee and conversation at COJ. "It gives students a place where they can go and hang out in a comfortable and relaxing atmosphere, something that isn't available elsewhere on campus," said sophomore John Whelan.

Debates are also welcomed, and actually common at the café. "Without trying to turn students away from Cup O Joe, there are often very good debates and conversations down there. It could often be compared to Core discussion, only the topics are whatever you want. The thing about COJ is that I've never known many

people to put-down or judge others down there. It's almost its own little community," said Giles.

The atmosphere caters to exhibiting student dedication to what is literally a hole in the wall. The artwork that covers the walls was all painted by former students, and current students are welcomed to paint ceiling tiles.

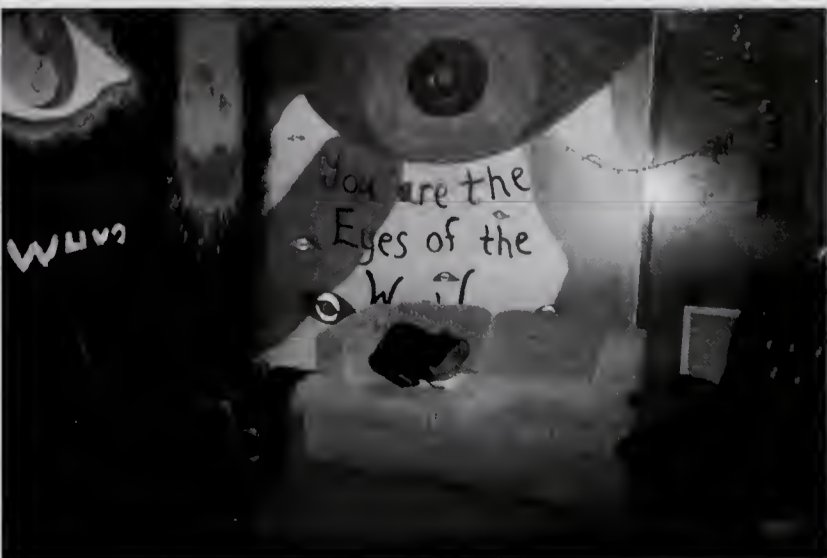
Although it has a very different social atmosphere than many places on campus, it is not an exclusive community. "A lot of the time it's just a group of us sitting down there and talking about random topics. Sometimes we play games," said Whelan.

And games they have! Cup o Joe is notorious for keeping itself updated with Trivial Pursuit Editions, as well as having a variety of board and cards games. This semester, they will be hosting two different card tournaments as well as a week-long Trivial Pursuit tournament in early November. The Trivial Pursuit party will be a "Coming Out" party for the newest edition, and the tournament will be from Nov. 3 – 7, excluding the sixth. There will be prizes awarded to the winner of each night's tournament.

Wednesday nights are extremely active at Cup O Joe. There is the Faith Gathering that meets there every Wed. night as well as a late night study session where students can enjoy a quiet atmosphere for contemplation and homework, and the Measure readings every third Wed. of the month.

COJ regulars and workers emphasize the need for such a community on St. Joseph's campus.

Cup O Joe consists of two rooms located in the Chapel Basement by the Priest's Kitchen and the Communications' offices.



The culture of one individual spot on campus can affect the mindset of many other aspects of SJC. "Cup O' Joe is one of the many uniquenesses about SJC. Being in COJ is like being in a separate world off-campus and off the map," said Maura Giles. She continued, "It's like SJC's very own 'Walden'! In COJ there are no people telling you what to think and no e-mails bleeping at you every five minutes. There is just good company, good drinks, and good conversation."

Christine Malnarick agreed. "Cup O' Joe is important to campus because it's a fun place to hang out that is totally unstructured. You can come down and do nothing, or you can come down and do your homework all night, it's up to you. I think it's great to have a place to go, to get out of the dorms, to hang out. It's a great place to meet new people and

learn lots of new things," she said.

Besides a distinctive environment, one can visit Cup O Joe for an educational experience. On Oct. 29, they will play host to the English Department's "Howl – o – ween : A Celebration of Poetry." Dr. William Mottolese's Creative Writing Poetry class will be reciting Allen Ginsburg's poem "Howl," and then the rest of the night will be open to anyone willing to listen to or share ghost stories, poems, songs and short stories. There will also be a raffle to raise petty cash for the *Measure Literary Magazine*. It will begin at 6:30 PM and last until about 9:00.

Cup O Joe is open for any club's usage. Contact Wendy Sidener or Angie Quartuccio for the opportunity.

Fifteen Great Halloween Movies... According to Melissa

15. *Rocky Horror Picture Show* -
"Let's do the Time warp again!"
14. *Boris Karloff in Frankenstein* -
The old school horror movies are fantastic! Anything with Karloff or Lugosi are worth it.
13. *Scream* -
Great parody of the horror film phenomena. Unfortunately, it spawned a whole slew of copy-cat films that I wasted seven bucks on!
12. *The Craft* -
It's not really scary, but it is such a cool movie!
I so wanted to be the wicked witch of the East after this film.
11. *Bram Stoker's Dracula* - A romanticized version of the classic tale and it's excellent.
10. *Jason X* -
JUST KIDDING! Go with the original Friday the 13th.
9. *Blair Witch Project* -
It really is a great indie film. And now that it's not thrown in your face so much, you might be able to appreciate it.
8. *Edward Scissorhands* -
I like it, all right?
7. *Nightmare Before Christmas* -
Killing two holidays with one film? Ingenius!
6. *The Amityville Horror* -
One of the few SCARY scary films.
5. *Interview with the Vampire* -
I cannot decide who I'd like to bite me first!
4. *Halloween I, II, IV and V* -
Any of them are pretty appropriate, but the consensus according to Brdiget Newman is that these are the best!
3. *Texas Chainsaw Massacre* -
A standard for any horror movie list.
2. *Exorcist* - It's number one on every other list...that's why it's not on mine!
1. *Army of Darkness* - I actually suggest buying Evil Dead, Evil Dead II, and Army of Darkness and just watching them all in a row over and over again.

Honorable Mention : *Crossroads* - Britney acting?? AHHHHH

List created by Melissa Genova.

Send all complaints to her at mgg3598@saintjoe.edu

Cross Country Twins: Double Your Pleasure

Elizabeth Klocek
Reporter

At the insistence of a neighbor Danielle and Darcilia (Darci) Ramirez began running thirteen years ago and they haven't stopped since. But running isn't the only thing these sisters share.

Besides both being members of the SJC cross-country and track teams, both Dani and Darci enjoy dancing. They are members of a Puerto Rican dance troupe that tours all over the area, performing in festivals and parades.

In addition to the dance troupe to which the seniors belong, Darci is also treasurer of the Diversity Coalition, president of the Student-Athlete Advisory Committee, and a member of the Have a Nice Day Club.

But when talk turns to running, the sisters are interesting to listen to. Both seem very modest, asking the other what their own strengths are. Finally, Darci decides that her strength is that she's a steady runner. Though slower, she is able to keep a good pace

for extended periods of time. Dani said, "My strength is being the 'Big Mamma' to my two freshman, Jill Gentile and Meghan Russell. I have to get them through that first mile!" Regardless of their strengths or weaknesses, the girls have a determination and devotion to running that most will never have. Their workout includes two-a-day practices at 6:30 in the morning and 4:00 in the afternoon. In addition, the pair works out doing lifting, push-ups, dips, and ab workouts after practices.

Neither Darci nor Dani is sure how they are doing time-wise this season, but they are busy gearing up for the post season with the rest of the team.

They are looking forward to conference on October 26th, regionals on November 9th, and hopefully nationals on November 23rd. The other female cross country runners, other than the twins, are freshmen Jill Gentile and Meghan Russell, juniors Alexis Virtue and Jaymi Hartzler, and seniors Sarah Flory and Maria Toledo.

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Dani Ramirez Favorites

Movie: Selena

Song: Anything from Old Michael Jackson

Food: Pasteles

Professor: Cindy Snyder

Sport: Cross Country

Athlete: Lance Armstrong
Olympic Gold Medalist,
Cyclist

Darci Ramirez Favorites

Movie: Armageddon

Song: "Don't Want to Miss a Thing", Aerosmith

Food: Lasagna

Professor: Bill Jennings

Sport: Cross Country
and Track

Athlete: Bob Kennedy,
Olympian

Softball Twins: Double Your Fun

Jaclyn L. Keefe
Reporter

Twelve years of softball is a long time for a person to dedicate to any activity, sports especially. But for freshmen Jennifer and Jessica Reusnow, it is all part of the commitment they are willing to give for softball.

Both sisters, identical twins in fact, played for their Evergreen Park high school team for four years.

Jennifer plays shortstop, second base, and outfield. Jessica is a pitcher and occasionally plays second base and outfield as well. Jessica bats eighth when she is not pitcher (pitchers are not allowed to bat so when she is pitching she has a designated hitter). Jennifer bats ninth.

Jessica's goals for the season include: having a winning record, a solid ERA, making it to conference, and becoming a starter. In her free time, Jessica likes to work out. Her major is undecided right now.

Jennifer, too, has many aspirations for the season. She would also like to have a winning record and make it to conference. In addition, Jennifer wants to have a high batting average, an error-free season, and become a starter.

Both players are happy with Head Coach Frank Wilkins, who has been with the Pumas since 1999.

The softball team ended the pre-season 7-6. The first regular season game is March 18th. The first home game being on March 25th.

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Jennifer's Favorites

Food: Jello

Sport: Softball

Subject: Math

Place: New York

Movie: The Goonies

Class: Human
Development

T.V. show: E.R.

Singer: Elton John

Color: Orange

Professor: Father Gilbert

Jessica's Favorites

Food: Pasta

Sport: Softball

Subject: Math

Place: Colorado

Movie: What About
Bob?

Class: Nutrition

T.V. show: Sports Center

Band: Nickelback

Color: Green

Professor: Father Gilbert

The Fan Club



For more information on any of the Saint Joseph's College Sports teams go to <http://www.saintjoe.edu/athletics/sports.php>

Puma Baseball: Hell Week Ahead!

Allison Segarra
Reporter

As fall ball comes to a close, the Saint Joe baseball team prepares both mentally and physically for a winning season. Many of the returning team members are anxious to see what the freshman can do.

Junior first baseman Dave Fussell thinks the freshmen are looking "awesome." Pitcher and sophomore Russ Karas also had positive remarks about his freshmen cohorts. "The freshmen are a strong, talented group that could definitely help the team in the long run." Coach Rick O'Dette is happy with his freshman and is looking forward to seeing what they can contribute to the team. O'Dette has been with the team since 2000.

According to Zac Herb, catcher and fresh face this season, Coach Rick O'Dette has done a "good job of recruiting a talented freshman class this year." Herb discussed the difference between high school ball and college ball. He thinks the biggest change is that everyone here is on the same skill level. His personal goal as a freshman is to be able to contribute to the varsity team.

There are a few changes this year besides the addition of the freshmen. A solid number of veterans have returned this year. "We have a good nucleus of



older guys with a lot of experience," explained O'Dette. Also the team has a "harder work ethic," says Fussell. The guys are also working on a pro-baseball weight lifting program.

"Team chemistry is very good, they are working hard and accomplishing a lot, although we have a lot to do yet," Coach O'Dette commented.

There will be fifty-six games during the regular season. O'Dette is confident that the Puma team is capable of at least forty wins which will send them to the regionals. Fussell shares common goals with his coach. He wants to win both the conference and the regional championships and also the coveted World Series.

The players seem to appreciate

their coach's efforts as much as he appreciates theirs. Herb said, "It is nice to know you have someone who is there for you and personally cares about you as a player." Karas thinks O'Dette is a great coach because "He works personally with each player."

It looks like the Puma Baseball Team has their work cut out for them. They will take a break now to rejuvenate before "hell week" which begins after Christmas. They will practice at five in the morning every day during that week. Now if that isn't dedication than what is?

Catch the Pumas in action beginning February 22nd against Lincoln University in Missouri. The first home game is on March 22nd against Quincy University.

Fellowship of Christian Athletes

Casandra Wagner
Reporter

"Basically it's a Bible study," Jen Willig responded when asked what the F.C.A. was all about. This organization, Fellowship of Christian Athletes, was introduced to Saint Joe's just last year under the direction of Luke Hansen. The torch was passed last semester to a more than willing Willig.

The F.C.A. is a national organization with over 250,000 participants. The mission statement of the F.C.A. is "to present to coaches, athletes, and all whom they influence, the challenge and adventure of receiving Jesus Christ as Savior and Lord, serving him in their relationships and in the fellowship of the church."

Contrary to the name it is not only for athletes, it is open to anyone interested in studying the Bible. It is also a nondenominational organization, so regardless of your religious practice you'll fit in with this group.

Under Willig's leadership a huddle team was established consisting of Abbey Conner, Meg Perryman, Amanda Hartle, and herself (pictured). These four ladies have lead between a



dozen and twenty people in discussions in a variety of different directions.

They always bring the discussion back to the Bible passage that is read at the beginning of each meeting. The passage is chosen from a F.C.A. bible, and is discussed first among the huddle team, so they know what direction to stem conversation in. After, the whole group meets to discuss the same topic. Sometimes these discussions can last up to two hours.

Jen's goals for this year are to

obtain more FCA Bibles, so the group can follow along to the passage being read aloud. She also hopes to get the group actively involved in the community with service projects. Both goals are quite attainable, so be on the look out for the F.C.A.; they're about to storm campus. Join them as they grow.

They meet every other Monday at 9pm in the Puma Defense Room in the Rec Center. Bring a bible if you have one and don't forget to tell a friend.

National Sports Update



World Series

San Fran Giants

vs.

Anaheim Angels

Go to Esn.com for all the latest updates!

NHL

Carolina 6-2

Washington 5-3

Philadelphia 5-3

Pittsburgh 5-3

Boston 5-3

NFL

San Diego 6-1

Buffalo 4-3

Miama 5-2

Denver 5-2

Carolina 3-4

Tampa Bay 5-2

San Francisco 4-2

Arizona 4-2

Philadelphia 4-2

Green Bay 6-1

New Orleans 6-1

Big 12 Standings

North

Colorado 5-2

Iowa State 6-2

Kansas State 5-2

Nebraska 5-3

Missourri 3-4

Kansas 2-6

South

Oklahoma 7-0

Texas 6-1

Texas A&M 5-2

Texas Tech 5-3

Oklahoma State 3-4

Baylor 3-4

If you are interested in writing for the Sports section contact Bridget Newman at bnh3998@saintjoe.edu.

Top 5 Movie Quotes of the Week:

Compiled by Tim Hayes

5. *The Fly*

"I'm an insect who dreamt he was a man, and love it. But, now, the dream is over, and the insect is awake." -Seth Brundle (Jeff Goldblum)

4. *Stripes*

"When I was a kid, my father told me, 'Never hit anyone in anger, unless you're absolutely sure you can get away with it' - Russell Ziskey (Harold Ramis)

3. *Airplane*

"I want the best available man on this. A man who knows that plane inside and out. And, won't crack under pressure." -Steve McCroskey (Lloyd Bridges)

"How 'bout Mr. Rogers?" -Johnny (Stephen Stucker)

2. *Dick Tracy*

"Around me, if a woman don't wear mink, she don't wear nothin'." -Big Boy Caprice (Al Pacino)

"Well, I look good both ways." -Breathless Mahoney (Madonna)

1. *To Be or Not to Be*

"I believe you only fall in love once. And, when you do, you should dedicate your whole life to that person." -Lt. Andre Sobinski (Tim Matheson)

Courtesy of www.uselessmoviequotes.com

Useless Information

*There are three sets of letters on the standard typewriter and computer keyboards which are in alphabetical order, reading left to right. They are f-g-h, j-k-l, and o-p.

*Starch is used as a binder in the production of paper. It is the use of a starch coating that controls ink penetration when printing. Cheaper papers do not use as much starch, and this is why your

elbows get black when you are leaning over your morning paper.

*The loop on a belt that holds the loose end is called a "keeper."

*"The Star-Spangled Banner," written by Francis Scott Key, is ranked the most difficult national anthem on Earth to sing.

*"Jingle Bells," a popular Christmas song, was actually written for Thanksgiving. The song was composed in 1857, by James Pierpont, and was originally called "One Horse Open Sleigh".
Courtesy of coolquiz.com

What D'Ya Know?

Today's Topic? *Star Wars*...Find out how much you know about this ever-popular movie series...

1. Where does Luke say, "There's something alive down there"?

- a. *Empire Strikes Back*
- b. *A New Hope (Episode 4)*
- c. *Return of the Jedi*

2. How many Jedi Masters are on the Jedi Council?

- a. 7
- b. 9
- c. 11

3. Where does Anakin Skywalker say angels live?

- a. *Coruscant*
- b. *the moons of Iego*
- c. *the two suns of Tatooine*

4. How much was James Earl Jones paid to be the voice of Darth Vader?

- a. \$1,000
- b. \$10,000
- c. \$0

Answers:

1. a 2. c 3. b 4. c

Quiz courtesy of coolquiz.com

this little girl

white dresses, pretty pink bows
can't play hide-and-seek for trouble
will

come a calling
perfect hair, controlled laughter
want to break free
don't like these chains
want to be free
takes a breath
it's pouring outside
wearing a white dress with pretty
ribbons in hair
drip! drip! plop! plop!
rain continues to dance down
a smile appears on a wan face
a door creaks, slightly it opens
sudden silence
rain relents
thunder throws tantrums
water, water everywhere and not a
drop to drink
little steps from little feet on the porch
waiting... waiting to run and play
hide-and-seek in the rain

~Melissa Alba

****If you or anyone you know is interested in submitting their poetry, cartoons, art or other creative expressions, e-mail Susan Huss at shg3609@saintjoe.edu.****

- - What's That Line Again? - -

Did you ever listen to a song and hear one thing, only to find out later that what the lyrics actually are were a totally different thing? Well, you're not alone. Here are the misheard lyrics from some of your favorite artists' songs.

Song: *Suspicious Minds*

Artist: Elvis Presley

What They Heard: "We're cod and we're trout. We can't walk now."

Correct Lyrics: "We're caught in a trap. We can't walk out."

Song: *Piano Man*

Artist: Billy Joel

What They Heard: "When I wore a young woman's clothes."

Correct Lyrics: "When I wore a younger man's clothes."

Song: *Kryptonite*

Artist: 3 Doors Down

What They Heard: "If I go crazy then will you still call me stupid head?"

Correct Lyrics: "If I go crazy then will you still call me Superman?"

Song: *Simon*

Artist: Lifehouse

What They Heard: "Well I want worms too."

Correct Lyrics: "And not one word was true."

Courtesy of amiright.com

SJC Poet's Corner

Saturday

I am supposed to confess.

But to what? What shall I confess to?

Shall I say that when I was ten

I ran away. Or that the car accident
was not caused by a stray deer, but my
straying mind.

Saturday's are good days to confess,
they are lazy, as unmotivated as an
old dog, who has long forgotten his
tricks.

Shall I cry and beat my breast
as I tell of the time that I pushed
Mitch down the stairs
out of frustration and revenge.

Saturday's are as good for confessing
as Sundays are for forgiving.

Shall I confess that I secretly
tried to forget my love. For my family.
For my God. For that girl.
For myself.

But Saturday will not let me forget,
it holds me and forces me to confess,
to relive the pain and the horror
of my weakness.

I hate Saturday.
~Nicholas T. Schafer

The Loser

I deserve an honest love
Something wonderful, sent from above

I deserve something better than you
My friends have proven this to be true

Your emotionless, uncaring ways
People are right, crime never pays

You, with the criminal mind
My true beauty, you didn't even try to
find

I will be fine alone
You won't, this I've been shown

You never really tried
I can't believe, over you, I cried
~Amanda Niccum

Life

Life is not like anything.

In fact Life is like nothing,
With its meaning being itself.

In Life there exist Truths:
That Dreams keep Life flowing,
In that Dreams make Life come true;
That with Life comes Death,
In that without Death, Life is not fulfilled;

That like Time, Life is endless,
In that it has been, is now, and always
will be;

That Love is the very thing that allows
Life to be,

In that without Love there would be
no Life;

That Life is Death not Life,
In that through Life we Die and
through Death we Live.

Life is just that . . .
. . . Life.

~Stephen Kraemer

Mirror

I see
A round face
With fat cheeks like a five-year-old,
Fair skin with a few acne scars,
And a forehead that a beautician said
was
Small enough that bangs were not
nessesary,
And a nose that is long,
But not hideous.

I see
Wide eyes
Of a medium brown,
That awoken in the light,
Examine through dark-rimmed glasses,
And brighten
When their beauty is noticed.

I see
Full lips
That are naturally pink,
Never colored anything else,
That move
Into smiles, frowns, pouts,
And love to show off
The white teeth behind them.

~Natalie Lapacek